

WHEEL

ECCM

21 | 08 | 2023 MONDAY

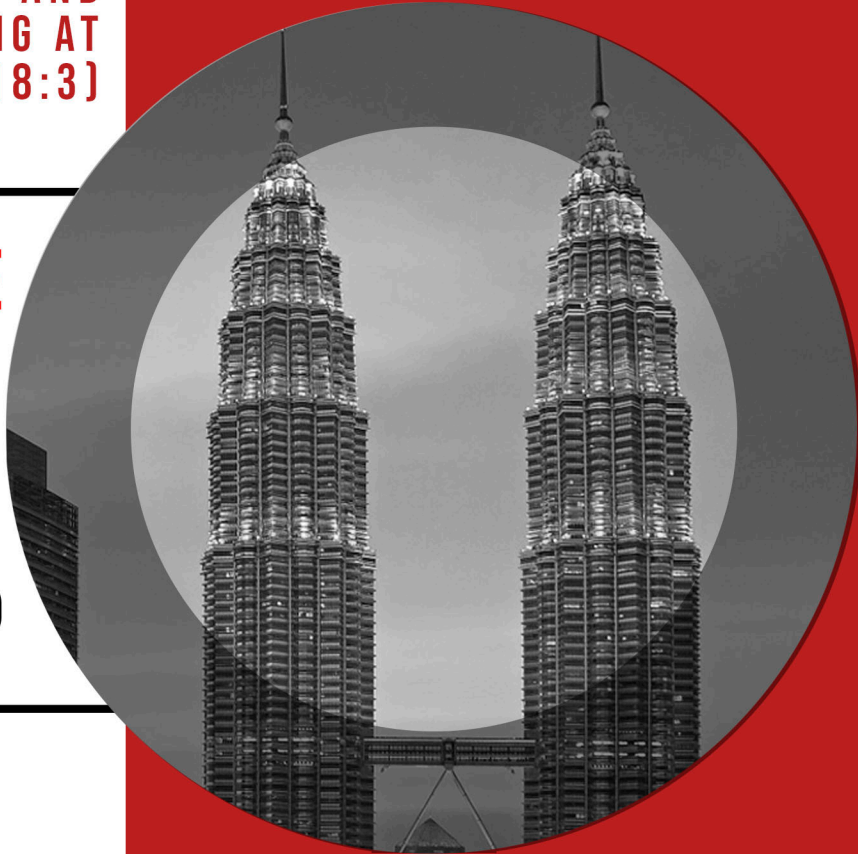
SO I WENT DOWN TO THE
POTTER'S HOUSE, AND
THERE HE WAS WORKING AT
HIS WHEEL. (JER 18:3)



SAVE THE DATE

**CHRISTMAS
LUNCHEON**

**14
DEC 2023**



**NOTHING SHALL
REMAIN THE SAME**

- Rev Eu Hong Seng

SHEPHERD HEART

- Pr. Justin Segar

DIGNITY FARM ACADEMY

Sowing Seeds of Hope for a Sustainable Future

- Rev. Elisha Satvinder

**SECRETS OF LONG TERM
FRESHNESS IN 'MINISTRY**

- Dr. Ajith Fernando

**THE CALL TO
CONNECTED SOLITUDE**

- Dr John Andrews

**EVANGELICAL
CHARISMATIC
CHURCHES
MALAYSIA**
(ECC Msia)



Nothing Shall Remain **the Same**



Rev. Eu Hong Seng
NECF, Chairman.

thus says the Lord GOD: "Remove the turban, and take off the crown; Nothing shall remain the same. Exalt the humble, and humble the exalted.

Ezekiel 21:26 (NKJV)

The world is fast changing. Growing darkness is sweeping across and overshadowing nations and continents. The tide of wickedness is rising.

Recently, when a French-Algerian teenager was shot by the police, riots and unrest broke out with the burning of public facilities and police stations in numerous cities in France, even spreading to other European countries. Endemic and institutional racism is emerging. Lawlessness is no longer so easily explained away. Shootings in schools and colleges in the US are

today not uncommon news.

The LGBTQ issue has become the new faultline of the Church. Pride parades are unashamedly promoted, as is the concept of the "pride month."

It's time for the Church to be reminded of Daniel's prophetic warning – "One like the Son of Man" shall come with the clouds of heaven! [Daniel 7:13].

And that this shall take place "when the transgressors have reached their fullness" [Daniel 8:23].

Ezekiel, a compatriot of Daniel, cautions in the OT of the impending Babylonian captivity – “I will draw My sword out of its sheath ...” [Ezekiel 21:3]. Ezekiel bluntly declares “you have made your iniquity to be remembered.. your transgressions are uncovered ... your sins appear” [Ezekiel 21:24]. It’s not just an issue of sin. God’s people have become guilty of the whole gamut of iniquity, transgressions and sins.

Ezekiel then pronounces God’s indictment –

thus says the Lord GOD: “... Nothing shall remain the same. Exalt the humble, and humble the exalted.

Ezekiel 21:26 (NKJV)

The context of this prophetic word is found in Ezekiel 20:1 – “in the seventh year, in the fifth month, on the tenth day of the month”. This occurred in approximately 590 BC. The destruction of Jerusalem took place shortly after, circa 588-586 BC.¹

The Open Bible tells us that Nebuchadnezzar destroyed Jerusalem in three stages. First, in 605 B.C., he overcame Jehoiakim and carried off key hostages including Daniel and his friends. Second, in 597 B.C., the rebellion of Jehoiakim and Jehoiachin brought further punishment; and

Nebuchadnezzar made Jerusalem submit a second time. He carried off ten thousand hostages including Jehoiachin and Ezekiel. Third, in 586 B.C., Nebuchadnezzar destroyed the city after a long siege and disrupted all of Judah.²

Hence the warning that “nothing shall remain the same” appears like a near-final message of doom, just before the last and final [third] captivity. The last king Zedekiah would lose his crown, and the kingdom of Judah would end.

Whilst we pray for our nation, the world (our mission field), and our churches – for revival, for a move of God, for things to improve, we need to recognize that His Coming is fast approaching, and the parousia writings tell us things can only and will get worse.

Never has it been more clear than today that foolish virgins are refusing to retain God in their knowledge. Consequently, God is giving us over to a debased mind – Rom 1:28-31. The apostle Paul describes mankind as wicked, sexually immoral, malicious, full of envy, murder, strife, evil-minded, haters of God, violent inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, and deserving of death.

¹ J. Vernon McGee, *Thru the Bible Commentary: The Prophets (Ezekiel)*, electronic ed., vol. 25 (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1991), 103.

² *The Open Bible: New King James Version*, electronic ed. (Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1998).

The last pandemic taught us that the Church is not going to be the same anymore. The stubborn company who has refused to hear the trumpet call³ to gather, is not going to come back. The recalcitrant company who refused to enter Noah's Ark to be saved, is with us. The mocking dissenters who lived till the last days in Sodom and Gomorrah will not relent. Revelation tells us the Seals, the Trumpets and the Bowls will be catastrophic and calamitous. Despite this, the final victory belongs to God's chosen people.

When God deals, nothing shall remain the same.

Whilst waiting for the final blow as "the king of Babylon stands at the parting of the road, at the fork of the two roads" [Ezekiel 21:21], the prophet Ezekiel is further instructed to uncompromisingly preach to His people "show her all her abominations" [Ezekiel 22:2]. This is prophetic of the compelling need in our present-day Church. The divine countdown to Judah's end (our end) is well advanced – this is similarly true today.

Nobody likes to be told where we are erroneous and wicked. Besides Paul's list, the slumbering Church's list surely includes stubborn idolatry, corruption of worship, obstinate refusal to make

disciples, indiscipline in devotional life, and the entertainment atmosphere which is a cover-up for the Ichabod phenomenon in our services. The list is just too long.

Nothing shall remain the same. Zedekiah would be dethroned and humiliated and all would be lost. Today's generation too often presumes the worst possible scenario would be just the "same old, same old." No, it's going to be much worse, before the coming of the King of kings.

Men of God would presumptuously seek a word from the Lord. But God's terse response would be "I will not be inquired of by you" [Ezekiel 20:3b].

Yes, we need this voice in the wilderness, before His Second Coming, to "make known to them the abominations of their fathers" [Ezekiel 20:4]. And again, in Ezekiel 22:2 "declare to her all her abominations" [ESV].

My prayer is that God would raise Ezekiels in our midst, men whose hearts are broken [over the backslidden Church]. Men who would groan with bitter grief because of the prodigal Church.⁴ Men who are bold to confront our generation – the abominations we shamelessly commit whilst raising hands in His sanctuary.⁵

³ Like the trumpets call in Numbers 10

⁴ -**Ezekiel 21:6 (NKJV)** Sigh therefore, son of man, with a breaking heart, and sigh with bitterness before their eyes. -**Ezekiel 21:6 (ESV)** "As for you, son of man, groan; with breaking heart and bitter grief, groan before their eyes.

⁵ Ezekiel 22:2 (ESV) "And you, son of man, will you judge, will you judge the bloody city? Then declare to her all her abominations.

SHEPHERD HEART



Pr.
Justin Segar

Pastoral care and discipleship go hand in hand. When I reflect on my role as a pastor guiding the members of the local church, I'm reminded of the central concept of "SHEPHERD HEART" in both pastoral care and discipleship. It is the main propelling power to my pastoral ministry. Every time I am reminded to have a "shepherd heart," my thinking pattern and the subsequent response to any given situation is covered by the grace of our "Master Shepherd," Jesus Christ. The scripture presents a clear model of pastoral ministry that is rooted in having a shepherd's heart. (John 10:11)

This thought continually renews my passion to serve the local church, as I am convinced that having a shepherd's heart will not only empower us to provide care but also to disciple, guide and protect the members under

our care like a shepherd tends to their sheep.

As we navigate through changing times, in this post-modern era, the church ministry is faced with many challenges of relativism and pluralism, but we take heart that nothing in this world can offer the safe assurance of a shepherd hearted servant of God; moulded by Christ, our true shepherd.

Pastoral care and discipling are no easy feat. It is a high calling, yet we know that there are no perfect pastors. While the task may seem challenging, we can find guidance and inspiration in the scripture to be pastors with a shepherd heart. The scripture equips us with the necessary wisdom and direction to care for and disciple our congregation according to God's perfect will and purpose.

King David shows us 'to shepherd the people with integrity of heart and lead them with skillful hands. (Psalm 78:72). This is the pinnacle of pastoral care and discipling. It is not careless but requires sincere attention and awareness of people's individual situations.

In a world filled with leaders and varying states of affairs in different nations, the exceptional leadership demonstrated by King David stands out across all eras. Despite not being a perfect king and having his share of faults and mistakes, David was recognized by God as a man after His own heart.

The nurturing process of King David began during his days as a shepherd boy. (Psalm 23:1) It was in those early years that he learned the importance of tending to his sheep, guiding them through the wilderness to find safety, and providing them with nourishment from fresh water and green pastures. David offers us a practical model of pastoral care and discipling. We cannot move away from these basic principles of shepherding.

1. Shepherd's Integrity

Pastoral care and discipling should always be conducted with integrity of heart. The integrity of Christ was not self-proclaimed; instead, it was recognized and acknowledged by the people (Mark 12:14). God will not use the pastor without equipping him or her beforehand. The shepherd heart leader must first open his heart to the work of Christ. God uses a leader who is

prepared like a skilled craftsman. God prepares us for His mission; to care and be cared for, to disciple and empower the people. Every disciple with integrity of heart will first and foremost place the mission of God as first priority in church ministry.

2. Shepherd's Responsibility

King David's life serves as a valuable lesson. Pastors like anyone else, are not immune to making mistakes. We learn the importance of taking responsibility for our actions. There is no room for blame shifting in pastoral ministry. "When David saw the angel about to destroy the people, he prayed, "Please! I'm the one who sinned; I, the shepherd, did the wrong. But these sheep, what did they do wrong? Punish me and my family, not them." (2 Samuel 24:17)

3. Shepherd's Sacrifice

Pastoral care and discipleship require us to prioritize the needs of others, often sacrificing our own well-being and sometimes affecting our families. It can be time-consuming, emotionally challenging, and frequently goes unrecognized or unappreciated. However, we are reminded of the greatest sacrifice at calvary, the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. This becomes our practical guide in christian ministry.

In 1 Peter 2:21-25 (MSG) "This is the kind of life you've been invited into, the kind of life Christ lived. He suffered everything that came his way so you would know that it could be done, and also know how to do it, step-by-step.

He never did one thing wrong, Not once said anything amiss. They called him every name in the book, and he said nothing back. He suffered in silence, content to let God set things right. He used his servant body to carry our sins to the Cross so we could be rid of sin, free to live the right way. His wounds became your healing. You were lost sheep with no idea who you were or where you were going. Now you're named and kept for good by the Shepherd of your souls."

The essence of pastoral ministry is to ensure that the flocks under our care are served with a shepherd heart. It becomes a natural discipling process. Jesus in his brief time of just over 3 years of ministry; gave us a practical lesson of pastoral care and discipling with a shepherd heart. He showed how pastoral care and discipling can be done through daily routine, over conversation and meals, through

mistakes and success, loyalty and betrayal, Jesus stayed the course and fulfilled the mission of God.

Jesus our true the Shepherd, desires that all of his flock is safe and not one should be lost. He will go after the one out of the ninety-nine until He finds it. (Luke 15:4)

Micaiah clearly highlighted God's concern for His people in 1 Kings 22:17 Then he said, "I saw all Israel scattered on the mountains, as sheep that have no shepherd..."

When Jesus gave us the command in Matthew 28:19, he desires that every person will be disciplined by a shepherd hearted servant, and they likewise will have a shepherd heart to disciple others. At the heart of pastoral care and discipling is to be followers of Christ and to shepherd many more people towards God's Kingdom.

DIGNITY FARM ACADEMY: Sowing Seeds of Hope for a Sustainable Future

*"As long as the earth endures,
seedtime and harvest, cold and heat,
summer and winter, day
and night will never cease."
– Genesis 8:22*

In a world facing global food security challenges, the church has a unique opportunity to play a pivotal role in preparation and intervention. The Dignity for Children Foundation, known for its commitment to providing quality education and holistic care to underprivileged children and the refugee population, has taken a pioneering step towards sustainable farming and learning through the Dignity Farm Academy in Bentong, Pahang.

Whats is dignity Farm?

Established in 2021, Dignity Farm Academy is a venture that aims to return to natural and sustainable methods of farming, learning, and living. The academy's journey began



Rev.

Elisha Satvinder

with hard work - clearing, digging, restoring, and rehabilitating tired soil. Through extensive seeding and planting, and a process of trial and error, the farm gradually began to flourish.

The Pillars of Sustainable Farming

The foundation of Dignity Farm Academy is built upon the principles of ecological sustainability. Organic farming methods are meticulously followed, which include minimizing pollution, producing compost and fertilizers from plant or animal waste, using natural pest control instead of synthetic pesticides, and preserving the natural forest habitat as much as possible.

After months of dedicated efforts, the farm now thrives with a variety of

vegetables, herbs, flowers, and fruit tree saplings. Sustainable farming practices not only lead to better crop yields but also protect the soil for future generations. Additionally, the farm is

home to chickens and ducks that roam freely and forage in the surrounding stream, resulting in healthier poultry compared to those raised in large-scale caged conditions.

Activities Provided by Dignity Farm Academy

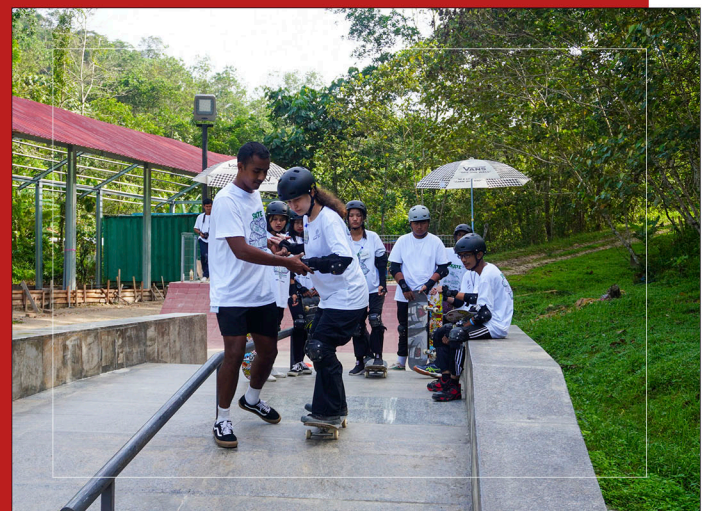
Dignity Farm Academy offers a diverse range of activities that cater to different groups:

For Family & Friends:

Camping Camping: Escape into nature with our cozy tents, comfortably accommodating up to 3 adults. Fully furnished with single-sized mattresses, pillows, fresh linens, and blankets, our tents ensure a restful night's sleep.

Educational Farm Tours: Embark on a fun-filled, hands-on farm tour, discovering the significance of sustainability, composting, and the origins of food.

Skate: Experience thrills and relaxation at Malaysia's first granite skatepark, nestled amidst lush greenery.



Organizational Team Building :

Skate Clinics: Certified skateboarding coaches lead exciting skate clinics perfect for team building, catering to beginners and seasoned skaters alike.

Enzyme Workshop: A hands-on team-building activity to learn about enzymes and create personalized enzyme-based products together.

Planting Vegetables/Tree: Strengthen team relationships and create a sustainable environment through engaging planting activities.



Fun Learning Field Trips for Youths:

Sow, Grow, and Craft (3D2N): A unique camp offering woodworking classes, farming activities, and campfire storytelling, fostering a love for nature and craftsmanship.

River and Farm Adventures (2DIN): Immersive nature experiences with farming activities and river exploration, emphasizing the importance of environmental preservation.

Skate Clinics (Add-on): Certified skate coaches provide not only skateboarding skills but also valuable life lessons in perseverance, problem-solving, and self-confidence.

Calling For Action

The work of Dignity Farm Academy is a part of God's redemption story, where restoration of the land plays a crucial role. The Church must embrace its

responsibility as stewards of the environment and actively participate in initiatives like the Dignity Farm Academy to ensure a sustainable future for generations to come.

In conclusion, the Dignity Farm Academy stands as a beacon of hope, inspiring churches to reconnect with the land and nurture sustainable practices. By embracing ecological stewardship and promoting a just relationship with the environment, churches can play a vital role in

alleviating food insecurity and restoring dignity to underprivileged communities. Let us unite in this mission, driven by the knowledge that we are called to be faithful stewards of God's creation and to sow seeds of hope for a flourishing future.



dignity
Farm Academy

Phone: +(60) 03-4044 1397
Email: dignity@dignityforchildren.org

Rev. Elisha Satvinder is Senior Pastor of New Covenant Community and the co-founder of the work of Dignity for Children Foundation, a Non-Profit providing quality education and holistic care to underprivileged children since 1998. Dignity Farm Academy invites individuals or organizations that are interested to partner with or support the work to contact dignity@dignityforchildren.org.

SECRETS

OF LONG TERM FRESHNESS IN 'MINISTRY

Dr.
Ajith Fernando



On April 27th 2023, we had the privilege of learning from Dr. Ajith Fernando. With years of experience in church ministry, Ajith taught us with sincerity and simplicity, encouraging every Pastors and Leaders to advance towards long term ministry.

Session 1 : WHAT IS THIS THING CALLED JOY?

We were reminded that Joy keeps us going in ministry for the long term. The heart of the gospel is Joy!. We tend to find that joyful people are serving people, because without joy, serving becomes a burden. Therefore, it is paramount that our souls are joyful in the Lord. Dr. Ajith highlighted three truth in relation to joy that we must consider :-

(i) GOD LOVES US - a simple truth, yet many christians struggle to accept that God is for them and will lead them according to His word. -*Romans 15:13*

(ii) GOD IS WITH US - Joy and suffering come together, and a mature christian rests under the assurance that through it all, Christ is near. -*John 16:22*

(iii) GOD LIKES US - Every child of God ought to remember that God takes delight in us, regardless of what we can bring to HIM, because what He does for us takes precedence. God rejoice over us in gladness. -*Zeph 3:17*

Session 2 : OUR PERSONAL TIME WITH GOD

During our second session, Dr. Ajith continued to emphasize the importance of having a daily personal time with God. Spending time with God addresses the basic struggles in ministry. Below are the key points:

(i) PRAYER SLOWS US DOWN - Our lives can be tyrannized by busyness, but prayer is actually the remedy for busy people. He further explained that insecurity combined with busyness is a bad combination. -*Psalm 46:10*

(ii) PRAYER BATTLES INSECURITY - Spending time with God brings joy and strength to us daily. Church ministry

presents various challenges, and we need the assurance of God's word. This is the day that the Lord has made, I will rejoice and be glad in it. -*Psalm 34:5*

(iii) PRAYER HELPS US TO UNDERSTAND PAINFUL BLOWS - We can be caught in anger, bitterness and disappointment by engaging in ministry without a praying lifestyle. In every crisis situation, every minister must meet God before meeting the people. Let the beauty of His presence touch you. -*Psalm 27:4*

(iv) Intercession brightens our lives - Praying for others is a powerful act of love. Intercession is hard work, but it activates love and brings refreshment to us. -*Col 4:12*

***This message by Dr Ajith Fernando is available via private youtube link. You may request the link by sending us a WhatsApp message at 010-2106011.**



THE CALL

TO CONNECTED SOLITUDE

Dr.
John Andrews

On the 9th of June Dr John Andrews ministered to all our pastors and leaders. John's profound teaching was a great encouragement to every one of us. We heard his compassionate plea for pastors to live a life in solitude with Christ in order to have a fruitful and fulfilling ministry. Drawing from Mark 1:29-39 and Psalm 23:1-6, he walked us through the scriptures to help us see the significance of the call to connected solitude.

A solitary place is not a barren place but a place without demands of people. Jesus modeled this for us, and we take lead from him. We must not neglect the solitary place and should be careful not to just minister out of gifts but from a heart that has spent time with Jesus. Quoting Jonathan Sacks; 'to hear the voice of God, we



need a listening silence in the soul.' John further explained every pastor must create respectful space for God. Learning to embrace silence in the every busy world we live in.

The call to connected solitude must not be confused with isolation. Jesus did not isolate to stay away, but he spent time in solitude so that he could serve the people more effectively. Connected solitude cries out, 'i need, but isolation says, 'i am enough.' Solitude leads to life, but isolation carries the symptoms of death.

Psalm 23 shows us the significance of living a life in connected solitude with

Christ as our Shepherd.

(i) A Call to Communion.

- We are spiritual leader
- We are shepherds to the people
- We are followers of our Master Shepherd, Jesus Christ.

(ii) A Contentment to the Word.

- He makes us lie down in green pastures

(iii) A Dedication to Stillness.

- He leads me besides still waters

(iv) A Challenge to Superficiality

- He restores my soul

While busyness is present in our daily lives, pastors have to be intentional about being connected in solitude. We often say 'i cannot,' but a change of

language will help us when we say 'i must.' John further explained the importance of solitude in depth by highlighting that the Sabbath rest is not just physical but relational. We are not resting from work; but we are working from rest.

In conclusion, we were reminded that we should not be lazy about seeking rest. Solitude won't happen if it is not planned. Another reminder was for us not to be arrogant by thinking that we are anointed and we can just run the race without the need of rest in solitude.

Dr John called all pastors and leaders to never allow gifts to lead us to a place of arrogance, but to make room for our Master Shepherd in Christ by spending time in Connected Solitude with Him.'

****This message by Dr John Andrews is available via private youtube link. You may request the link by sending us a WhatsApp message at 010-2106011.***



ABOUT US

ECC Msia is a fellowship of ministers and churches who are like minded in doctrine, vision, character, values and purpose. We provide the context for biblical accountability amongst ministers and churches.

MISSION STATEMENT

ECC Msia exist to promote and nurture relationship amongst member minister and churches, strengthening and equipping them to be more effective in building and multiplying strong churches.

OUR VISION

The vision for ECC Msia is to impact our nation for Jesus Christ through strong local churches by upholding the biblical values with high moral and ethical standard.

PEER RELATIONSHIP

PASTORAL MINISTRY

POWER IN UNITY

PERSEVERANCE FOR RENEWAL

OUR OBJECTIVES

To serve Evangelical Charismatic Churches Malaysia by the 3R as below:

REPRESENTATION

We seek to provide a 'voice' for the indigenous charismatic churches.

RECOGNITION

We provide authentication and lend credibility to churches in this category which is often misunderstood for their 'independence'.

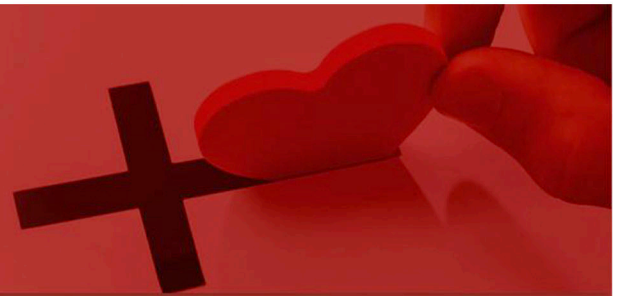
RELATIONSHIP

We seek to provide care, guidance and practical help for its member churches.



**SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER
AS MEMBER
OF ECCM.**

G I V I N G



Please bank in to : **ECC MALAYSIA BERHAD**
Bank Name : **MAYBANK BERHAD**
Account Number: **512361 142879**

www.ECCMsia.org | HP: 010-2106011

We welcome your partnership. ECCM seeks to build strong churches by encouraging and equipping Pastors and Leaders. Your generous giving supports ECCM to continue to serve the local church. Thank You.